

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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(71)Applicant : TOSHIBA CORP

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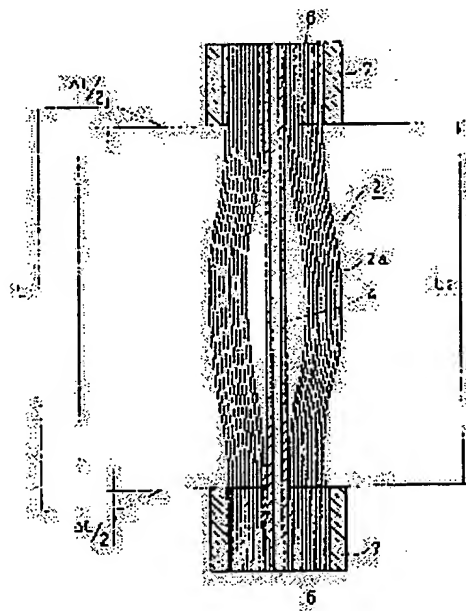
(72)Inventor : TAMURA KUNIO

(54) HOLLOW YARN MEMBRANE FILTER

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To prevent the damage of a hollow yarn and to perform effective backwashing, by a method wherein hollow yarns are arranged so that the length of each of the hollow yarns between both adhesive filling parts is so excessive as to satisfy a specific condition with respect to the interval between both adhesive filling parts.

CONSTITUTION: In a hollow yarn membrane filter 2, the length L_1 of each of the hollow yarns 2a arranged in a slightly loosened state between upper and lower end adhesive filling parts 6 is set so that an excessive length ΔL satisfies the relation $0.01 \leq \Delta L / L_1 \leq 0.04$ (wherein $\Delta L = L_1 - L_2$) with respect to the distance L_2 between both adhesive filling parts 6. By this method, the whirling-up of the hollow yarns 2a at the time of backwashing and the accompanying entanglement, bending or breakage can be prevented and, since the hollow yarns 2a are shaken properly, effective backwashing can be performed. Further, a solid component released at the time of backwashing is not accumulated in the hollow yarn membrane filter 2. Furthermore, a liquid effectively flows around the hollow yarns 2a positioned at a central part at the time of filtering.



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(72) Inventor: TAMURA KUNIO
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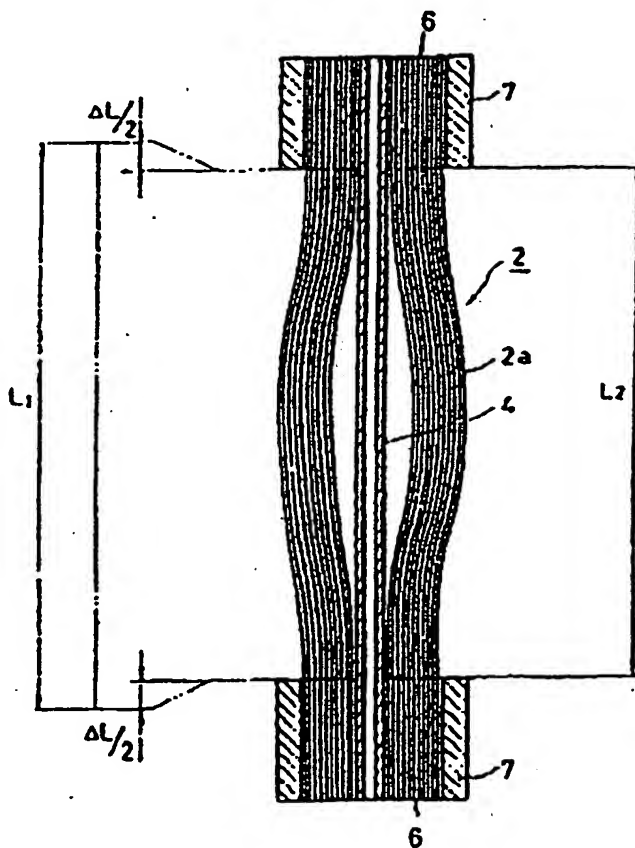
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⑨ 発明の名称 中空糸膜フィルタ

⑩ 特 願 昭61-202045

⑪ 出 願 昭61(1986)12月8日

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明 細 書

1. 発明の名称

中空糸膜フィルタ

2. 特許請求の範囲

中空糸の中空糸を溶着してその両端部が開口するように溶着部を形成して固定し、上記溶着部を形成した溶着部充填部の外周に固定部材を設けて固定して上記両端部の溶着部充填部を所定長さをもって連続する中空糸膜フィルタにおいて、上記両端部溶着部充填部の中空糸の長さ

(L_1)は上記両端部溶着部充填部の間隔(L_2)に対して所定の比率(ΔL)を用いて配設され、この比率(ΔL)は以下の条件を満足するものであることを特徴とする中空糸膜フィルタ。

$$0.01 \leq (\Delta L / L_1) \leq 0.04$$

値し

L_1 : 両端部溶着部間に配設される中空糸の長さ

L_2 : 両端部溶着部間の間隔

$$\Delta L: (L_1 - L_2)$$

3. 発明の詳細な説明

【発明の目的】

（産業上の利用分野）

本発明は各種プラントの水処理装置において、被処理液中の固形物を分離・除去する目的で供用される中空糸膜フィルタに関する。

（従来の技術）

一般に中空糸はその外径が0.3～1mm程度で、その両端に開口穴を有する中空円筒状の構造の膜である。そして単位面積内の透過面積を大きくとることができるとともに、耐圧性に優れているという特徴を備えている。そこで中空糸を多数本環状にその両端を溶着部である側面と接合することによりフィルタを形成する。この中空糸膜フィルタを水処理装置用の透過装置として使用する。

以下第5図を参照してそのような中空糸膜濾過装置の構成を説明する。第5図は中空糸膜濾過装置の断面図であり、図中符号1は容器本体である。この容器本体1内は図切線3により上下に二分されており、下部空間を濾過室10とし、上部空間

を処理装置1bとしている。上記処理室1a内には中空系膜フィルタ2が上記仕切板3より垂下されている。上記中空系膜フィルタ2は支持体4の外周に多数本の中空系2aを配置させて、その上端部及び下端部を流路形成部5で固定するとともに、更にその外周から環状固定部材7を設けて固定した構成となっている。また第1図に示す装置では上記構成を有する中空系膜フィルタ2を筒状方向に2重連通しており、筒状方向8はその際使用される流路である。上記筒状本体1の下端部には処理室14に連通する流路始配管10が接続され、一方上端部には処理室1bに連通する流路終出配管11が接続されている。上記流路始配管10には開閉弁12が介挿されており、流路終出配管13が分岐接続されている。この流路終出配管13には開閉弁14が介挿されている。上記流路始配管10を介して処理室1a内に供給された事は、中空系膜フィルタ2を通過する際に処理されて各中空系2aの中空部を介して流出される。

いる。また筒状本体21は処理室であって、この処理室21によって上送したバブリングの筒の気泡を中空系膜フィルタ2内に効果的に導入するものである。

ところで上述した構成の中空系膜フィルタ2に対して気泡を流す際、筒状部の流路形成部5によって決定される筒状部の断面（第5図中符号L₁：示す）に対して、その間に配置される中空系2aの長さ（L₂：上記L₁なる断面の間で若干短縮しているのでL₂より大きな値である）をどの程度の割合をもって決定すれば、前述したバブリングが効果的になされかつ中空系2aの膜劣化が防止できるかについては考慮されていないのが現状である。従来は5%程度の余裕をもって設定していた。ところが、流通・連続を前提するうちに流路本の中空系2aがからみついて固着・堵塞するという事態が発生した。これは中空系2aが高分子材料からなり、流路形成の主成分である水とその比が角等しいために、中空系2aが固り上がり固着・堵塞に至ったものと考えられる。このよう

上記構成にあって、流通により中空系膜フィルタ2の筒状部の圧力が上昇して、これが規定値に達した場合には、流路形成部5を流して各中空系2aの表面に付着した固形分を洗い落とす操作が行われる。すなわち前記流路終出配管11を介して中空系膜フィルタ2の各中空系2a内に流路用の圧送流体を供給する。それと同時に中空系膜フィルタ2の下方からバブリング操作を遂行。つまり前記筒状本体1内にあって中空系膜フィルタ2の下方にはバブリング管15が配設されており、このバブリング管15の下面部には気泡孔16が形成されている。また上記バブリング管15は開閉弁18を有するエア・供給管17に接続されている。そして上記バブリング管15に上記エア・供給管17を介してエア-を供給することにより気泡孔16より気泡を見せさせる。該気泡により中空系膜フィルタ2をバブリングさせて膜劣化を減らす。前記仕切板3の下方位置の筒状本体1にはオーバーフロー管19が接続されており、該オーバーフロー管19には開閉弁20が介挿されて

な問題を解決する手段としては、前記5%程度に設定した余裕を増やす、あるいは無くすることが考えられる。しかしながらその様な方法をとった場合には以下のような問題が生ずる。

- ①まず前述したバブリングを行なう際の中空系2aの圧力降が基準以上に制限されて、十分なバブリング効果を得ることができない。
- ②中空系膜フィルタ2は前述したように流路本の中空系2aがら密に配設された状態で形成されており、余裕を少なくすると、各中空系2a間に流路形成が効果的に流通せず、よって中空系膜フィルタ2の外周に位置する中空系2aのみが流通に与えられる状態となる。これは流通効率の点からみれば好ましくなく、又外周に位置する中空系2aのみに膜劣化が付着するという現象が発生してしまう。
- ③また連続を流した場合には、流通圧により制限した固形分が中空系2a内に溜まってしまい、制限した固形分の排出が効果的に行われにくいという問題がある。これも結局上記と同等に中空系2aがから密に配設されかつ余裕が少ない為にも中空系

28図における透過率が悪いことによる。

(発明が解決しようとする課題点)

このように従来の中空系膜フィルタにあってはその余長をいかに決定するかについての十分な検討がなされておらず、その製造後の問題を引起してあり、本発明は以下の点に於いてなされたものである。その目的とするところは、中空系の破損を防止するとともに適量の水処理を行なうことを可能とする余長を備えた中空系膜フィルタを提供することにある。

(発明の構成)

(課題点を解決するための手段)

すなわち本発明による中空系膜フィルタは、従来の中空系を覆覆してその両端部が開口するように接合部を充填して固定し、上記接合部を充填した接合部充填部の外周に固定部材を固定して固定して上記両端の接合部充填部を所定長さをもって連結する中空系膜フィルタにおいて、上記接合部充填部の中空系の長さ(L₁)は上記両端部充填部の間隔(L₂)に対して所

定の余長(ΔL)を持って形成され、この余長(ΔL)は以下の条件を満足するものであることを特徴とするものである。

$$0.01 \leq (\Delta L / L_1) \leq 0.09$$

但し

L₁: 両接合部充填部に形成される中空系の長さ

L₂: 両接合部充填部間の間隔

$$\Delta L: (L_1 - L_2)$$

(作用)

中空系の余長を上記範囲内とすることにより、余長が大き過ぎる為に見生ずる中空系のからみつき、それによる屈曲・破損を減くするとともに、余長が小さ過ぎることにより見生ずる逆洗液等の低下等の問題を効果的に解決するものである。

(実施例)

以下第1図乃至第4図を参照して本発明の一次態様を説明する。尚従来と同一部分には同一符号を付して示しその説明は省略する。第1図は中空系膜フィルタ2の構成を示す断面図であり、上

部及び下部の両接合部充填部間に包平地んだ状態で配設される中空系28の長さ(L₁)は、上記両接合部充填部6間の間隔(L₂)に対して(ΔL)なる余長を付しており、この余長(ΔL)は以下の範囲内に設定されている。0.01 ≤ (ΔL / L₁) ≤ 0.09 (I)

但し

L₁: 両接合部充填部間に配設される中空系の長さ

L₂: 両接合部充填部間の間隔

$$\Delta L: (L_1 - L_2)$$

余長(ΔL)をこのような範囲内に設定したのは、余長が大き過ぎることによる弊害、及び余長が小さ過ぎることによる弊害の両方を効果的に消滅するためであり、以下第3図及び第4図を参照して説明する。

第3図は横断に余長(ΔL)の中空系28の長さ(L₁)に対する割合をとり(%)、縦断に中空系28の屈曲部本数(中空系1000本あたり)をとって示した図である。これによると、余長(ΔL)

の中空系28の長さ(L₁)に対する割合が4以下の場合には屈曲部が発生した中空系28の本数が極めて少ないことがわかる。よって余長(ΔL)割合を4以下にすれば余長が大き過ぎることによる弊害を効果的に減くすることができる。一方下屈曲であるが、これについては第4図を参照して説明する。第4図は横断に余長(ΔL)の中空系28の長さ(L₁)に対する割合をとり(%)、縦断に逆洗効率(逆洗によって剥離した固形分量/総固形分量、%)をとって示したもので、この第4図から明らかなように余長(ΔL)の中空系28の長さ(L₁)に対する割合が1以下になると逆洗効率が急激に悪化しているのがわかる。これは第2図にも示すように、逆洗時にバッキングを行なう際には中空系28がある程度膨張する必要がある。該膨張により固形分が洗い落とされるからである。さうに以下のことが観察された。すなわち余長(ΔL)の割合を1未満とした場合には、中空系28の膨張が必要以上に制限されるために、中空系膜フィルタ2の中心部の中空系28近傍に

あつては流液が通過せず、よつて外周部の中空系2aのみが流液に供される状態となつてしまふ。これは外周に設けられた中空系2aのみに流液分が付着することから防止することができる。それと同時に1流液とした場合には、流液時に流液した流液分が中空系フィルタ2内に溜つてしまひ、流液時に流液できないことも防止された。このような理由から余圧(ΔL)の中空系2aの長さ(L1)に対する割合の下限値を1としたものである。

以上本発明例によると以下のような効果を奏することができる。

- ①まず流液時における中空系2aの長さを上げ、それによつてからみつき現象あるいは詰りといった事態を流液時に防止することができる。
- ②次に流液時には中空系2aが流液に通過するので、流液時の流液が可能となる。
- ③また流液時に流液した流液分が中空系フィルタ2内に溜つてしまふということもない。
- ④さらに流液時にあつても中空系フィルタ2の

中心部に設けられた中空系2aの流液にも流液が流液に通過するので、外周部のみで流液が行われるといった事態を防止することができ、流液のよい流液を提供することができる。

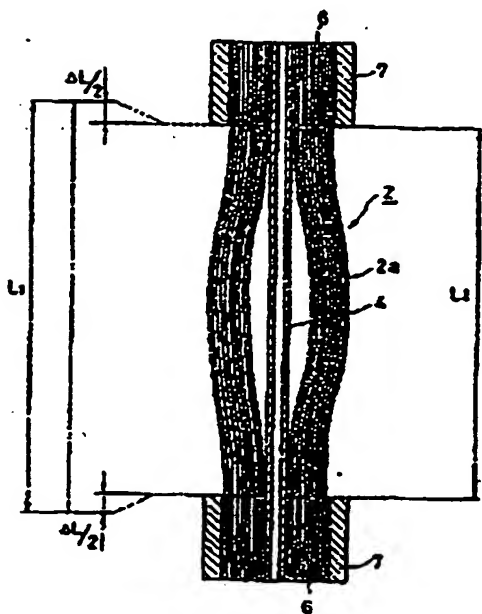
【発明の効果】

以上詳述したように本発明による中空系フィルタによると、中空系の長さを上げ、それによつてからみつき、さらには詰り・流液といった事態を防止することができるのと同時に、流液可能な流液を提供することができる等その効果は大である。

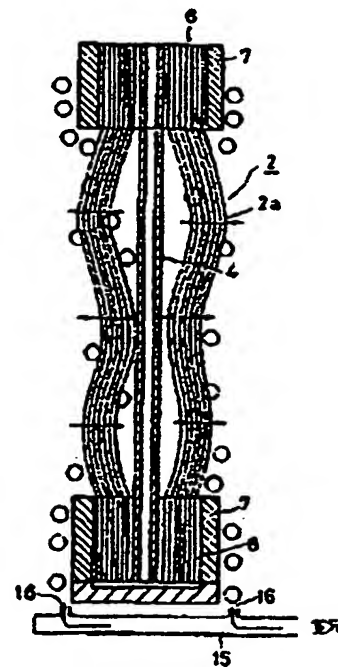
4. 図面の簡単な説明

第1図乃至第4図は本発明の一次流液を示す図で、第1図は中空系フィルタの正面図、第2図は流液時の状態を示す中空系フィルタの正面図、第3図は中空系の長さを変化させた場合の流液現象を示す断面図、第4図は中空系の長さを短くさせた場合の流液現象を示す断面図である。

2—中空系フィルタ、2a—中空系、4—支持体、6—流液管、7—流液管、15—流液管、16—流液管。



第1図



第2図

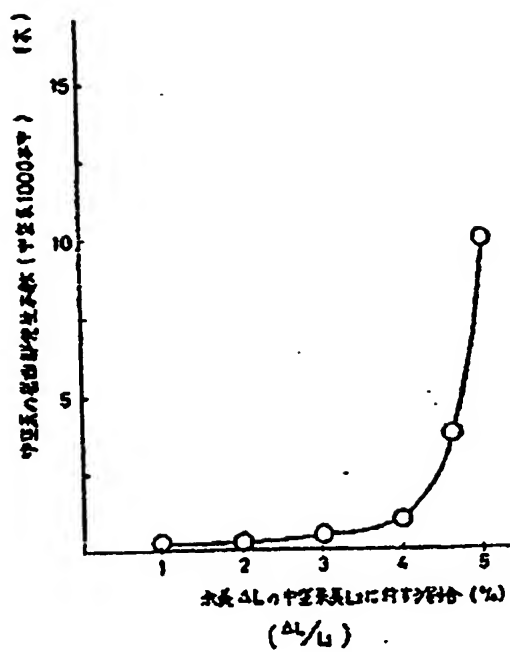


図 3

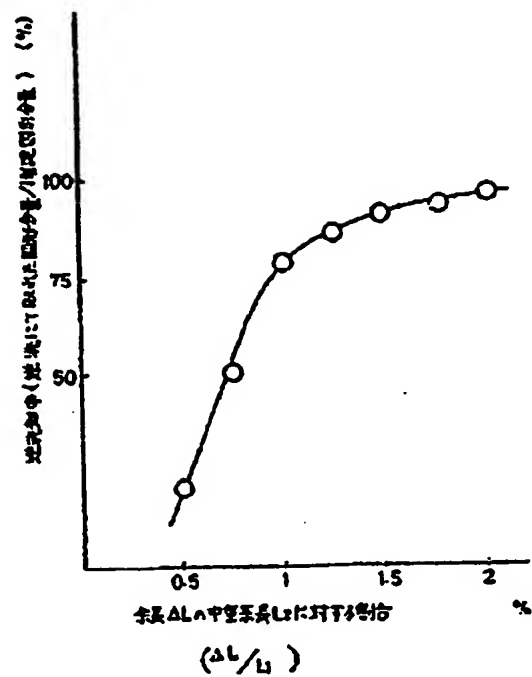


図 4

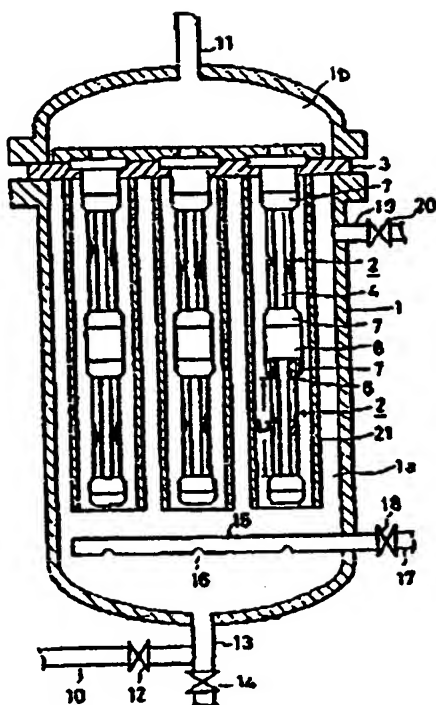


図 5



CERTIFICATION

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(54) Title of Invention: Hollow Yarn Membrane Filter

(21) Application No.: Sho 61[1986]-292045

(22) Application Date: December 8, 1986 (Showa 61)

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Specification

1. Title of the Invention

Hollow yarn membrane filter

2. Claims

In the context of a hollow yarn membrane filter in which multiple pieces of hollow yarn are bundled, filling and securing with bonding agent are performed in such a

way that both bundled ends open, a bundle securing member is installed and secured at the outer circumference of the bonding agent filling sections filled with the aforesaid bonding agent, and the aforesaid bonding agent filling sections at both ends are connected across a specified length; a hollow yarn membrane filter characterized in that the length (L1) of the hollow yarn between the aforesaid two bonding agent filling sections is set so that there is a specified excess length (ΔL) with respect to the gap (L2) between the aforesaid two bonding agent filling sections, and this excess length (ΔL) satisfies the following conditions:

$$0.01 \leq (\Delta L/L1) \leq 0.04$$

where,

L1: The length of the hollow yarn arranged between the two bonding agent filling sections

L2: The gap between the two bonding agent filling sections

ΔL : (L1 - L2)

3. Detailed Explanation of the Invention

Objective of the Invention

Industrial Field of Usage

The present invention relates to a hollow yarn membrane filter used in water treatment apparatuses in various types of plants with the objective of separating and eliminating solid portions in the liquid to be treated.

Conventional Art

In general, the hollow yarn is a membrane of hollow cylindrical fiber which has small holes on its surface and whose outer diameter is approximately 0.3-3 mm. Therefore, it has benefits in that the filtration area per unit capacity is large, and pressure resistance is good. A filter is formed by bundling many pieces of the hollow yarn and hardening both ends with resin, which is a bonding agent. This hollow yarn membrane filter is used as a filtration device for water treatment apparatuses.

The structure of this type of hollow yarn membrane filtration device will be explained below while referring to Figure 5. Figure 5 is a cross-sectional diagram of a hollow yarn membrane filtration device, where callout 1 in the diagram is the container main unit. The interior of this container main unit 1 is split into top and bottom by a diaphragm 3, where the lower space is a filtration chamber 1a, and the upper space is a processing fluid chamber 1b. The hollow yarn membrane filter 2 is hanging down from the aforesaid diaphragm 3 within the aforesaid filtration chamber 1a. The aforesaid

hollow yarn membrane filter 2 has a structure whereby multiple pieces of hollow yarn 2a are bundled at the outer circumference of a support member 4, and their upper and lower ends are secured by bonding agent filling sections 6, and, in addition, bundle securing members 7 are installed and secured from the outer circumferences thereof. Also, in the apparatus shown in Figure 1, the hollow yarn membrane filter 2 with the aforesaid configuration is connected in two stages in a perpendicular direction, where callout 8 in the diagram is the connecting tube which is used when this is done. A fluid supply pipe 10 which connects with the filtration chamber 1a is connected to the lower end of the aforesaid container main unit 1 while a processing fluid discharge pipe 11 which connects with the processing fluid chamber 1b is connected to the upper end. A shut-off valve 12 is positioned along the aforesaid fluid supply pipe 10, and a concentrated fluid discharge pipe 13 is branch connected. A shut-off valve 14 is positioned along this concentrated fluid discharge pipe 13. The fluid which has been supplied to the interior of the filtration chamber 1a via the aforesaid fluid supply pipe 10 is filtered when it passes through the hollow yarn membrane filter 2, and it is discharged via the hollow sections of the respective pieces of hollow yarn 2a.

In the aforesaid configuration, when the differential pressure before and after the hollow yarn membrane filter 2 rises due to filtration and reaches a specified value, a backwash operation is executed to perform an operation to wash off the solid portion which has adhered to the surfaces of the respective pieces of hollow yarn 2a. That is, a pressurized gas for backwashing is supplied inside the respective pieces of hollow yarn 2a of the hollow yarn membrane filter 2 via the aforesaid processing fluid discharge pipe 11. Simultaneously, a bubbling operation is executed from below the hollow yarn membrane filter 2. That is, a bubbling pipe 15 is arranged below the hollow yarn membrane filter 2 within the aforesaid container main unit 1, and bubble holes 16 are formed in the lower surface of this bubbling pipe 15. The aforesaid bubbling pipe 15 is connected to an air supply pipe 17 which has a shut-off valve 18. By supplying air to the aforesaid bubbling pipe 15 via the aforesaid air supply pipe 17, bubbles are generated from the aforesaid bubble holes 16. The hollow yarn membrane filter 2 is subject to bubbling by the aforesaid bubbles to improve the washing effect. An overflow pipe 19 is connected to the container main unit 1 so that it is positioned below the aforesaid diaphragm 3, and a shut-off valve 20 is positioned along said overflow pipe 19. Callout 21 in the diagram is a protecting tube, and this protecting tube 21 which allows the bubbles from the aforesaid bubbling to be effectively introduced into the hollow yarn membrane filter 2.

The current situation is such that, when backwashing is performed on a hollow yarn membrane filter 2 with the aforesaid configuration, the question of what degree of excess length should be set for the length (L1; a value larger than L2, since there is some looseness in the gap which is the aforesaid L2) of the hollow yarn 2a arranged between the two ends with respect to the distance (shown by callout L2 in Figure 5) between the two ends, which was determined according to the bonding agent filling sections 6 at both ends, in order to effectively perform the aforesaid bubbling and prevent damage to the hollow yarn 2a has not been taken into account. Conventionally, it has been set with

excess length of approximately 5 percent. However, situations in which the multiple pieces of hollow yarn 2a become twisted then bent and damage have occurred as filtration and backwashing were repeated. This is thought to be because the hollow yarn 2a consists of a polymeric material, and its specific gravity is almost equal to that of water, which is the main constituent of the processed fluid, so the hollow yarn 2a whirls up, then bends and becomes damaged. As a means of solving these types of problems, the excess length, which has been set to approximately 5 percent as mentioned above, may be shortened or eliminated. However, the following problems occur when such a method is adopted.

1) First, when the range of oscillation of the hollow yarn 2a when the aforesaid bubbling is performed is restricted more than is necessary, it is impossible to obtain a sufficient bubbling effect.

2) When the hollow yarn membrane filter 2 is bundled in the aforesaid way in a condition in which multiple pieces of hollow yarn 2a are densely arranged, and the excess length is decreased, the effects are such that the fluid to be processed does not flow efficiently between the respective pieces of hollow yarn 2a, and, therefore, only the hollow yarn 2a which is positioned at the outer circumference of the hollow yarn membrane filter 2 is provided for filtration. This is also undesirable from the standpoint of filtration efficiency, and it results in a phenomenon by which solid portion adheres only to the hollow yarn 2a positioned at the outer circumference.

3) Also, when backwashing is executed, there is a problem in that the solid portion which has been separated by said backwashing accumulates among the pieces of hollow yarn 2a, and removal of the separated solid portion is not performed effectively. This is because, ultimately, the flow characteristics among the pieces of hollow yarn 2a are poor because the hollow yarn 2a is densely arranged in the same way as the aforementioned 2), and the excess length is short.

Problems To Be Solved By the Invention

In this way, in conventional hollow yarn membrane filters, there has not been sufficient study with respect to how to determine the excess length, resulting in various problems. The present invention was designed taking these points into account, and its objective is to provide a hollow yarn membrane filter equipped with an excess length which makes it possible to perform effective backwashing while preventing damage to the hollow yarn.

Configuration of the Invention

Means To Solve Problems

In the context of a hollow yarn membrane filter in which multiple pieces of hollow yarn are bundled, filling and securing with bonding agent are performed in such a way that both bundled ends open, a bundle securing member is installed and secured at

the outer circumference of the bonding agent filling sections filled with the aforesaid bonding agent, and the aforesaid bonding agent filling sections at both ends are connected across a specified length; the hollow yarn membrane filter of the present invention is characterized in that the length (L1) of the hollow yarn between the aforesaid two bonding agent filling sections is set so that there is a specified excess length (ΔL) with respect to the gap (L2) between the aforesaid two bonding agent filling sections, and this excess length (ΔL) satisfies the following conditions:

$$0.01 \leq (\Delta L/L1) \leq 0.04$$

where,

L1: The length of the hollow yarn arranged between the two bonding agent filling sections

L2: The gap between the two bonding agent filling sections

ΔL : (L1 - L2)

Action

Setting the excess length of the hollow yarn within the aforesaid range effectively solves such problems as the drop in the backwashing effect which occurs due to the excess length being too small as it eliminates the bending and damage which result from the twisting of the hollow yarn which occurs due to the excess length being too great.

Embodiments

An embodiment of the present invention will be explained while referring to Figures 1 through 4. The same portions as in the conventional example are indicated by the same callouts, and explanations of these portions have been omitted. Figure 1 is cross-sectional diagram of the configuration of the hollow yarn membrane filter 2, where the length (L1) of the hollow yarn 2a arranged between the two bonding agent filling sections 6 at the top and bottom ends in a condition which is somewhat loosened has an excess length (ΔL) with respect to the distance (L2) between the aforesaid two bonding agent filling sections 6, and this excess length (ΔL) is set within the following range. $0.01 \leq (\Delta L/L1) \leq 0.04 \dots (1)$

where,

L1: The length of the hollow yarn arranged between the two bonding agent filling sections

L2: The gap between the two bonding agent filling sections

ΔL : (L1 - L2)

The reason that the excess length (AL) is set within this range is to effectively eliminate both the harmful effects resulting from the excess length being too great and the harmful effects resulting from the excess length being too small, which will be explained below while referring to Figures 3 and 4.

Figure 3 shows the proportion (%) of the excess length (AL) with respect to the length (L1) of the hollow yarn 2a on the horizontal axis and the number of bent sections of the hollow yarn 2a (among 1,000 pieces of yarn) on the vertical axis. According to this diagram, when the proportion of the excess length (AL) with respect to the length (L1) of the hollow yarn 2a is 4 or less, the number of pieces of hollow yarn 2a in which bent sections have occurred is extremely small. Therefore, if the excess length (AL) proportion is set to 4 or less, it is possible to effectively eliminate harmful effects resulting from the excess length being large. The lower limit value will be explained while referring to Figure 4. Figure 4 shows the proportion (%) of the excess length (AL) with respect to the length (L1) of the hollow yarn 2a on the horizontal axis and the backwashing efficiency (solid portion volume separated by backwashing / captured solid portion volume, %) on the vertical axis. As we can see from Figure 4, when the proportion of the excess length (AL) with respect to the length (L1) of the hollow yarn 2a is 1 or less, backwash efficiency quickly deteriorates. As shown in Figure 2, this is because it is necessary for the hollow yarn 2a to oscillate to certain extent when bubbling is performed during backwashing, and the solid portion gets shaken off by said oscillation. Moreover, the following has been observed. Because movement of the hollow yarn 2a is limited more than is necessary when the excess length (AL) proportion has been set to less than 1, filtrate does not flow in the vicinity of the hollow yarn 2a of the center section of the hollow yarn membrane filter 2, resulting in only the outer circumference portion of the hollow yarn 2a being provided for filtration. This may be observed from the fact that the solid portion only adheres to the hollow yarn 2a positioned at the outer circumference. It has also been confirmed that when a setting of less than 1 is used simultaneously with this, the solid portion which has been separated during backwashing flows into the hollow yarn membrane filter 2 and cannot be effectively removed. For this reason, the proportion of the excess length (AL) with respect to the length (L1) of the hollow yarn 2a has been given a lower limit value of 1.

The above embodiment is able to exhibit the following benefits.

- 1) First, it is possible to effectively prevent the situation whereby the hollow yarn 2a whirls up during backwashing and therefore becomes twisted and bent or damaged.
- 2) Also, effective backwashing becomes possible due to the hollow yarn 2a oscillating to an appropriate degree during backwashing.
- 3) In addition, the solid portion separated during backwashing does not flow into the hollow yarn membrane filter 2.

4) Also, filtrate flows efficiently even around the hollow yarn 2a positioned at the center section of the hollow yarn membrane filter 2 even during filtration, so it is possible to prevent the situation whereby filtration is only performed at the outer circumference section and to provide effective filtration.

Benefits of the Invention

As explained in detail above, through the hollow yarn membrane filter resulting from the present invention, there are great benefits in that it is possible to prevent the situation whereby the hollow yarn whirls up and therefore becomes twisted and bent or damaged and to provide effective backwashing.

4. Brief Explanation of the Figures

Figures 1 through 4 are diagrams which show an embodiment of the present invention, where Figure 1 is a front view of a hollow yarn membrane filter; Figure 2 is a front view of a hollow yarn membrane filter which shows the action during backwashing; Figure 3 is a characteristics diagram which shows changes in the number of pieces in which bent sections occur when the excess length of the hollow yarn is changed; Figure 4 is a characteristics diagram which shows changes in the backwashing effect when the excess length of the hollow yarn is changed; and Figure 5 is a cross-sectional diagram of a hollow yarn membrane filtration apparatus.

- 2 Hollow yarn membrane filter
- 2a Hollow yarn
- 4 Support member
- 6 Bonding agent filling section
- 7 Bundle securing member

Figure 1

Figure 2

- 1. Air

Figure 3

- 1. The number of pieces of hollow yarn in which bent sections occur (per 1,000 pieces of hollow yarn) (pieces)
- 2.

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The proportion of excess length (ΔL) with respect to the length L_2 of the hollow yarn (%)

Figure 4

3. Backwashing efficiency (solid portion volume separated by backwashing/captured solid portion volume) (%)
4. The proportion of excess length (ΔL) with respect to the length L_2 of the hollow yarn

Figure 5

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